Advisory Council on project Implementation

1146. SHRI SURENDRA SINGH THAKUR: Will the Minister of PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be please to state:

(a) what are the reasons for constituting an Advsory Council on Project Implementation; and

(b) the ways in which this Council has improved the project imlementation system and organisational development?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BHAJAN LAL): (a) Government being concerned at the heavy time and cost overruns in implementation of projects has pooled the expertise of eminent persons in the field by constituting an Advisory Council to advise the Ministry of (i) improvements in project implementation systems and (ii) organisational development.

(b) The Advisory Council is actively engaged in their work.

Implementation of projects

1147. SHRI SURENDRA SINGH THAKUR: Will the Minister PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the progress of implementation of Projects in the Public Sector Undertakings is satisfactory; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor and the measures being taken by Government?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BHAJAN LAL): (a) and (b) Several Central Sector projects have reported time and cost over-runs. The reasons for delay of the projects include *inter alia* the problems concerning acquisition of land, critical equipment and material supplies by the suppliers (imported as well as indigenous), finalisation of detailed engineering drawings, lack of infrastructural facilities and services, change in scope, inadequate allocation of funds etc.

Steps taken to expedite the implementation of these projects include:—

(i) Preparation of realistic project implementation plans.

(ii) Effective monitoring through Monthly Flash Report and Quarterly Status Report Monitoring System.

(iii) Constant pressure on project authorities for expeditious completion.

(iv) Inter-Ministerial coordination and inter-action.

(v) Close follow-up by concerned Ministeries and project authorities with State Governments. equipment suppliers, Consultants and other concerned agencies to minimise delays.

Working of the Ministry of Programme Implementation

1148. SHRI SURENDRA SINGH THAKUR: Will the Minister of PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the work of the Ministry of Programme